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BOOK REVIEWS

Latin Manuscripts. By HAROLD W. JOHNSON. Chicago: Scott, Foresman & Co.

THIS handsome volume of the publisher's "Intercollegiate Latin Series" includes, within its 135 large (quarto) pages, matter of very great interest and value to all teachers and students of Latin.

It is the outgrowth of Professor Johnson's lectures to a teacher's class on "Paleography, Hermeneutics, and Criticism," given at the Summer School of Indiana University, and is a response to the request that a manual might be published answering the more common questions about those subjects.

Professor Johnson is to be congratulated upon finding a field so interesting and fruitful, and so entirely unoccupied by any book covering the whole field in a broad general way, and at all well adapted for use in our high schools and colleges as this book certainly is.

The table of contents entire would furnish the best descriptive review, and of this I give the greater part.

The work is divided into three principal divisions which treat respectively of "The History of the Manuscripts," "The Science of Paleography," and "The Science of Criticism."

The first division treats, under "The Making of the Manuscripts": Writing materials and instruments, form of books, rolls, codices, their manufacture and preservation; under "The Publication and Distribution of Books": Author's copyright, plays, commercial and uncommercial publications, process and rapidity of publication, cost, correctors; under "The Transmission of Books": Period covered, public libraries, schools and universities, scholia, glosses, lost works, dark ages, revival of learning, invention of printing, Editiones principes, ancient manuscripts; under "The Keeping of Manuscripts": Care, naming, descriptions, important libraries, index to collections, symbols, collation, uncollated, manuscripts, critical editions.

Under the second division comes "Styles of Writing": Uses of paleography, ancient forms of letters, national hands, the majuscles,

capitals, square, uncials, half uncials, minuscules, abbreviations, these are all illustrated by specimens ; "Errors of the Scribes": Faculty copies ; classification of errors—unavoidable, intentional, accidental ; errors of the eye—dittography, lipography, skipping ; errors of the memory—transposition, substitution, omissions and additions ; errors of the judgment—wrong divisions of words, wrong punctuation, interpolation.

The third division considers "Methods and Terminology of Criticism": Sub-divisions of the science, the critical doubt, causes of doubt, kinds of criticism, criterion ; "Textual Criticism": Apparatus criticus—manuscripts, examination of them, stemmata and their uses, ancient translations and commentaries, citations, imitations ; use of the apparatus—relative worth of manuscripts, test of worth, conjectural emendation and its limits ; "Individual Criticism": Purpose ; external evidence—MSS., ancient writers ; internal evidence—historical, individuality, language and style, forgeries, tests, illustration of proof.

At the close of the book is a description of its sixteen handsome plates, facsimiles of one or more manuscripts of Cæsar, Catullus, Cicero, Horace, Sallust, Terence, Vergil ; also a reduced specimen of Livy. These specimens are selected rather to illustrate the styles of writing described than to represent the *apparatus criticus* of the authors.

The excellence of the paper, print, and binding, the division into numbered paragraphs with subject in capitals, the illustrations, besides the facsimile plates, and a good index, these combine to make a handsome and useful volume. One hesitates to say concerning this book, as readable and valuable, that every library should have a copy, and that it should be in the hands of every teacher, something stronger than this worn-out expression is needed. One may well say that every teacher, in secondary school and college, who wishes to awaken and deepen interest in the Latin work cannot afford to be without the book.

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